My wife and aunt Charlotte join me in assurances of love to yourself, Helen Sarah and your children.—

Give my best regards to Cousin S. Gray & whose fidelity and fearlessness I notice with pleasure, that is secured week after week. Also to R. F. Walcut, in whom there is no guile; and to the faithful and true that are about you.—

I fear that I shall not be able to afford to visit Boston this Spring. I am straitened. I am cramped. I am in the bondage of debt.—

Your affectionately

Samuel E. Gray.—

and more infidel to say that the so called church is infidel — that the truest faith is to be found amongst those, whom the church has given from her communion. Her doctrine of Human nature — and her cold indifference to suffering Humanity is enough to drive every Christ like spirit from her embrace.

Your support, your consolation, my dear friends, in this day of your adversity will not depend upon what others may think or say of you. I believe that you worship God in spirit and in truth — and I doubt not you have found him near, yes, present with you through the hours of lonely watching, at the grave of your darling boy, and since then in the midst of your house hold made desolate by his absence. —

It would give us all great pleasure to hear from you and Helen — and know from you of the health of your blessed and children and dear Sarah. Where is she and how? Patient, submissive we know she is and always will be. But is she suffering still — and if so, with any prospect of relief?

All our family are well as usual. But we are troubled somewhat — in as much as we have got to move this Spring.

me, than I would have harmed
my darling boy. It must be well with the
child - and it will be well with us, if
we are submissive, and wait to learn
the lesson which Providence is teaching
us. —— I read at the funeral the words
of Jesus respecting little children - and
then some exquisite pieces of poetry which
I wish I could put into your & Helen's
hands now. The last Liberator informed
us of the death of your precious
boy, Charles Follen. We were sitting
at tea, Saturday evening. John Edward
brought in a number of papers & letters -
Aunt Charlotte saw'd your paper, as
she often does first - and immediately
announced to us the sad tidings.
All our hearts' sympathy went forth
to you at once. We remember well the
beautiful, loving, happy child, as he was
two years ago. We knew how high were
your hopes - how deep was your affection
for him - and can appreciate your dis-
appointment - and your grief.

But I am sure that you and Helen
know in whom you trust. You both have
a strength of faith, a patience of hope,
and a depth of love, that the world knows
not of. Because you do not conform
yourselves to the creeds & commandments
of men, there are many who suppose you
can have no joy in Christ. But I am sure

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Syracuse, April 17. '49

GARRISON MSS.

My Dear Friends.

All last week, I was sympathizing with a young couple of my Society, who were watching over the dying bed of their infant, only daughter. (only child) On Friday afternoon, we deposited her little body in the cold grave. I returned to my house shuddering at the trials of feeling and faith, that await us in this life and yet impressed with the fact, which I have often, very often, witnessed, that ~~the deeply afflicted are the most resigned and confiding in God.~~

We were subjected to the same trial. Our first child, healthy, blooming, beautiful, when about seventeen months old was suddenly snatched from our arms. I was at first stunned, well nigh crazed by the blow. But in a few hours the beautiful thought came to my mind. "It is my Father's will. He has permitted me to know what it is to be a father. All these strong emotions of parental affection, then, are to me an assurance that all this disappointment, grief, which I am called to suffer must be for my good, for it is my heavenly Father's will. He would not have learn